

May 11. 1644.



THE Common Councill of the City of *London* (having taken knowledge that many persons within the said City and Liberties (out of a pious zeale and good affection to the Publique Cause) have of late freely and voluntarily subscribed divers summes of money, towards the maintaining of Forces to bee sent forth by the Committee of the Militia, of the said City of *London*, in pursuite of the late successe Almighty God hath given us against our Enemies) have thought fit for the better promoting of so good a worke to direct the further recommendation thereof to the Minister, Common Councill-men, and Church-wardens of the severall Parishes within the said City and Liberties thereof, effectually to move and incite all persons interessed in this Cause, cheerefully and freely to subscribe in some good measure, towards the maintenance of the said Forces, which in pursuite of the Enemy, may (by Gods blessing) put a happy end unto this unnaturall Warre, now raging within this Kingdome.

By the advice and direction therefore, of the Common Councill of the said City, for the more speedy raising of Monies in this behalfe, I doe earnestly desire and require you forthwith to examine diligently what Subscriptions of money have already beene made by any person or persons within your said Parish, for the purpose aforesaid; and effectually to move all others (that have not as yet done any thing in this behalfe) freely to subscribe in some considerable manner towards this most necessary Service; and to let such well-affected persons know, as shall forthwith advance and pay unto the Treasurers for Money and Plate at the *Guild-Hall* any summes of money for the purpose aforesaid; that for their encouragement they shall have the security expressed in an Ordinance of Parliament, made the third of *Aprill* last; by which it is ordained that all such moneys so advanced and lent as aforesaid, and paid to the said Treasurers; shall bee employed onely to maintaine the said forces, and not otherwise; and shall bee repaid with interest after the rate of eight pounds *per. centum*, out of the Receipts of the *Excise* and *New-Impost*, granted by a late Ordinance of Parliament: That is to say, the first halfe yeeres Interest at six moneths after the Loane of the said moneys, and the last halfe yeeres Interest, together with the principall, at the end of the next six moneths following. And also to let such Parishes know, as shall desire rather to lend their Money for this Cause; to bee repaid upon the Publicke Faith; and to chuse Collectors and Treasurers among themselves to receive and issue out the same to any of the said Forces, according to the direction of the said Committee of the *Militia*, that the Common Counsell of this City, upon knowledge thereof, will forthwith indeavour to procure an Ordinance of Parliament for the same purpose.

And I doe further desire and require you to certifie mee in writing under your hands, upon Wednesday next, the names and surnames of all such within your Parish, as have subscribed to this most necessary work, together with the summes of Money, underwritten by them, As also the names and surnames of all such persons of ability within the said Parish, that shall refuse to subscribe for the use and purpose aforesaid.

Dated this eleventh of *May*, 1644.

John Wollaston, Major.

To the Minister, Common-Councill-men, and Church-wardens of the Parish of

Postscript.

I Doe also heartily desire the Minister of the Church of the said Parish, to morrow, being the Lords Day, to publish this intimation to his Congregation, and by his good exhortations and best inducours, to stirre up their hearts, to subscribe, and contribute towards this so pious and needfull worke.